

Message Text

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63

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 SAM-01 ACDA-10 MC-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00 SAJ-01

EB-07 /110 W

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0278

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN

UNCLAS PARIS 15073

GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EG, FX

SUBJECT: EGYPTIAN VP COMMENTS ON ME

1. IN FRONT PAGE INTERVIEW WITH ERIC ROULEAU CARRIED
IN JUNE 12 ISSUE OF LE MONDE, EGYPTIAN VP MUBARAK SAYS:

"ALL THE NEWS STORIES COMING OUT OF WASHINGTON OR
TEL AVIV ABOUT THE IMMINENCE OF A PARTIAL AGREEMENT
BETWEEN EGYPT AND ISRAEL ARE WITHOUT BASIS AND COULD
WELL BE PART OF A DIVERSIONARY OPERATION. AND I WILL
TELL YOU WHY I AM SKEPTICAL. FIRST, PRESIDENT SADAT IS
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NOT PARTICULARLY FAVORABLE TO A RELAUNCHING OF MR.

KISSINGER'S SO-CALLED STEP-BY-STEP DIPLOMACY. UNLESS, OF COURSE, THE EFFORTS OF THE AMERICAN SECRETARY OF STATE ARE INTEGRATED INTO A PROCESS LEADING TO A GLOBAL AND DEFINITIVE SETTLEMENT OF THE ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT. SECOND, THE JEWISH STATE'S POSITIONS ON A NEW MILITARY DISENGAGEMENT HAVE REMAINED FROZEN SINCE THE FAILURE OF THE KISSINGER MISSION. BUT, WE ARE NOT, I REPEAT, NOT GOING TO SIGN A NON-BELLIGERENCY ACCORD BEFORE THE SOLUTION OF THE ENTIRE PROBLEM. MOREOVER, WE DO NOT ACCEPT THAT AN EVENTUAL ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL IN THE SINAI NOT BE TIED TO A SIMILAR AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE JEWISH STATE AND SYRIA. WE HAVE NO REASON TO BE OPTIMISTIC SINCE WE KNOW THAT MR. RABIN'S GOVERNMENT IS INCAPABLE OF TAKING THE HARD DECISIONS NEEDED TO MOVE RESOLUTELY TOWARDS PEACE."

2. IN REPLY TO A QUESTION ABOUT ARMS PURCHASES, THE VP SAYS THAT FRANCE WILL BE EGYPT'S PRINCIPAL PARTNER IN BUILDING A WAR INDUSTRY WHICH WILL BE FINANCED BY EGYPT, SAUDI ARABIA, QATAR AND THE UAE. HE INDICATES THAT THE CONSORTIUM HAS AN INITIAL CAPITAL OF OVER ONE BILLION DOLLARS, THAT SOME PURCHASES HAVE BEEN MADE FROM FRANCE AND THAT CONVERSATIONS CONTINUE WITH THE ENGLISH AND FRENCH. HE DISAVOWS ANY INTENTION TO CEASE PURCHASING IN THE USSR.

3. MUBARAK ALSO CONFIRMED PRESS REPORTS OF THINNING OUT OF ISRAELI FORCES PRIOR TO RECENT ISRAELI ANNOUNCEMENT THAT THIS WOULD BE DONE AND SAID EGYPT DID NOT NOTE THIS PUBLICLY IN ORDER TO PROMOTE NEW PEACE TALKS. PETROW

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